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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 000500-1281 Done

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re Patent Application of) **BOX: RCE**
Kent MALMGREN et al.) Group Art Unit: 1623
Application No.: 09/101,341) Examiner: E. White
Filed: July 8, 1998)
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING AN)
ABSORBENT MATERIAL, AN)
ABSORBENT MATERIAL AND)
ABSORBENT ARTICLES INCLUDING)
THE MATERIAL IN QUESTION)

AUG 22 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**AMENDMENT AND SUBMISSION OF REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action [final rejection] dated September 20, 2001, and further to the Notice of Appeal filed February 20, 2002, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claim 1 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) A method of producing polysaccharide fibers, comprising the steps of dissolving a polysaccharide in a solvent to form a solution, and spraying the solution into a bath which contains a water-miscible organic solvent and a cross-linker, wherein the solvent